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City College Quarterly

Volume 14, Number 1 March, 1918

CONTENTS

HENRY M. LEIPZIGER *(with portrait)*
BENNO LEWINSON, '73 3

JAMES R. STEERS . . . ALFRED D. COMPTON, '97 9

LOUIS P. GRATACAP *(with portrait)* GEORGE C. LAY, '69 13

PROFESSOR DIELMAN . . . LOUIS WEINBERG, '05 16

DE LIBRIS 19

INTRA MUROS . . . . A. I. DU PONT COLEMAN 23

EXTRA MUROS 31

DE MORTUIS . LETTER FROM LEWIS S. BURCHARD, '77 32

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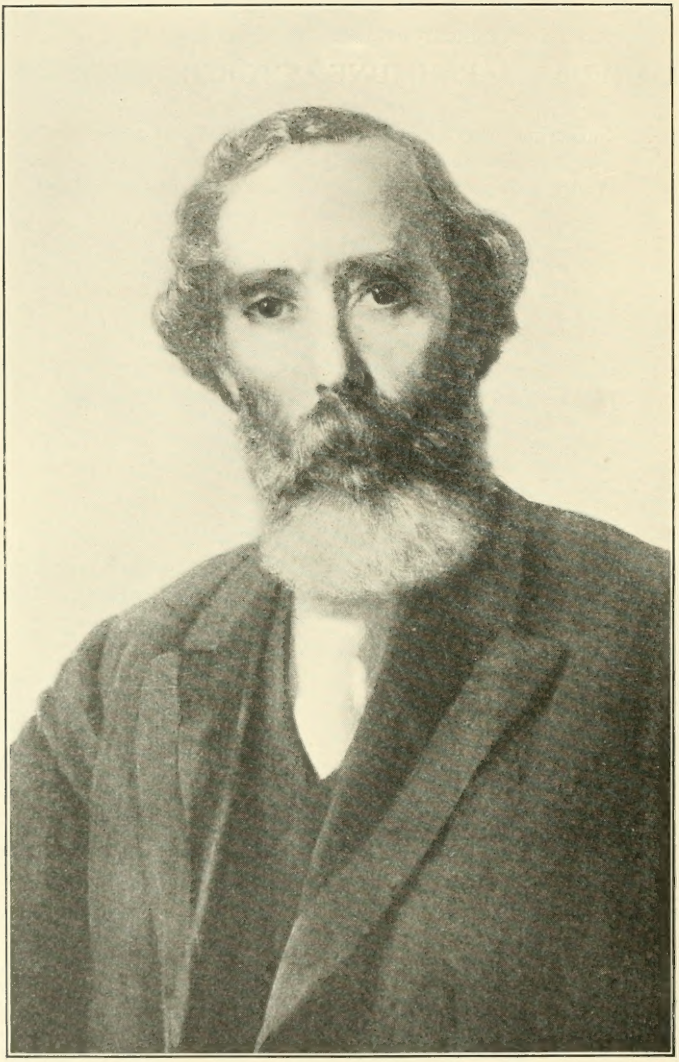

Henry M. Leipziger

HENRY M. LEIPZIGER, M.S., PH.D., LL.D.

AN APPRECIATION[1]

In his address on the occasion of the dedication of the buildings now occupied by the College of the City of New York President Finley said:

The University of Leyden gave back to the City and to the world her Grotius and her Descartes; a return in itself infinitely greater than the sum of all the taxes that might have been remitted. And there will spring from the College a few men who alone will compensate the city for all this new spending of treasure.

Quoting this when the Class of 1873 presented to the College the life-size portrait of Henry M. Leipziger in June, 1908, in the speech accepting this portrait as the official representative of the Board of Trustees of the College, I said:

Doctor Leipziger anticipated that prophecy in the career that he has made at the College, and thereafter. He is just the type of man that President Finley must have had in mind: and he has realized for us that ideal.

This portrait will mean for those who ask "Why was he singled out for representation?" that in him is typified the best achievement of the College. It will tell anyone who inquires that, in spite of difficulties, a man has gone forth out of the College, striving hard after its ideals, who *per aspera ad astra* has reached the very top. It will tell newer and younger men that what has been achieved may be achieved again; and it will serve as their inspiration.

Dr. Leipziger (as he has been known since 1888 when Columbia University made him a Ph.D.;—his degree of LL.D. was awarded by Union College in 1906) was born on December 29, 1854, in Manchester, England; and he died December 1, 1917, at the age of almost 63 years. He had immigrated

[1] From an address delivered at the City College Alumni Memorial meeting, December 9, 1917.

to New York early in life, and entered the College in 1867 as a member of the Class of 1872. Illness compelled the suspension for one year of his college course; and in his sophomore year he became a member of the Class of 1873, with which he graduated: taking the degree of B.S., as well as that of B.A.

He led the Class in History and Literature, in Composition and Oratory, and in the languages. A want of sympathy with the sciences and mathematics made him an indifferent student in these branches: so that his class standing was only an average one. But he was a notable figure among his classmates, and made his influence felt: particularly by a dignified bearing, a very brilliant diction, a melodious and sympathetic voice, and by constant evidence of wide reading. It was almost a matter of course that in his senior year he became, as he did, president of the Phrenocosmian Society, as well as one of the Kelly Prize Debaters; and though, because of his class standing, he did not get the Key at graduation, he won his membership in ΦBK not long thereafter.

After graduating he decided to become a lawyer, and he completed the law course at Columbia College in 1875, meanwhile supporting himself by teaching night school. He opened an office for the practice of law; but after a brief period he threw that career over for one for which he was obviously destined, that of teacher.

This he pursued to 1881, when he suffered a complete collapse of his health, and his condition warned him to suspend all activities; and from 1881 to 1883 he travelled extensively, all the time widening his cultural training by good, intensive, and wide reading.

After his return to New York he busied himself actively with many altruistic activities; and in 1884, with the support of prominent co-religionists, whom he succeeded in interesting in the project, he founded the Hebrew Technical Institute, in which the sons of Jewish immigrants received sound vocational training which fitted them for renumerative positions requir-

ing technical skill, and which thus laid the foundation for successful careers for many of these sons of the poor and the middle class, such as they might otherwise never have been able to attain. He was its superintendent from 1884 to 1891, when, by reason of the reputation here established, he was appointed Assistant Superintendent of Schools.

It was while occupying this position that he conceived the idea of establishing the Free Lecture Course given under the auspices of the Board of Education, which he himself has always spoken of as "The People's University." It began in a small way, but gradually developed into a field of splendid service, employing hundreds of lecturers and drawing audiences ultimately exceeding one million persons a year. The work became so extensive, important and laborious, that in 1896 the Board of Education created the position of Supervisor of Public Lectures, and appointed him to it. He held it until the day of his death.

He had entered upon his fatal and final illness, and was a great sufferer from bodily pain, when on October 8, 1917, he issued a letter to those under him in that department, which is of special interest, not only because it is the last act of this great leader in his chosen field of work, but because it expresses strikingly his frame of mind on a matter so vital to him, that he could not forbear to act, despite the almost unbearable bodily handicap at the time. It is as follows:

TO THE LECTURERS IN THE PUBLIC LECTURE COURSE OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

It had been my hope, owing to the present world conditions, to have had a reunion of all lecturers at the beginning of the present course, but unfortunately I am very ill and cannot, therefore, realize my desire. From my bed of pain I write to you to make every lecture as given harmonize with the spirit of Americanism as unfolded in the utterances of President Wilson. New occasions teach new duties; and at the present moment every man who is a teacher, whether of the young or of the old, must emphasize the noble interpretation

which our entrance into the great war has given to the word "Americanism."

To be an American is to be one who really and truly believes that in making the world "safe for democracy" he is accomplishing the ideal. My country is the world—my countrymen, mankind. To be an American is to be an idealist in the broadest sense; and to be ready to lay down his life and his fortune in the noblest cause that ever appealed to men.

May the spirit of these words be with you in all your utterances; for in the newly reorganized world that is being brought about, the education of the adult will be recognized as one of the most important means of keeping the world safe for liberty and democracy.

During the years that he was a teacher in the public schools he was, on Sundays, the principal of the religious school of the Temple Emanuel on Fifth Avenue. There came a time during this principalship when this Congregation planned to have an Associate Rabbi to the Rev. Dr. G. Gottheil; and so much impressed had the members of the congregation become with the character, scholarliness and biblical lore of Dr. Leipziger, that he was invited to address the congregation in its pulpit at several Saturday services, with the view to a call to this ministry. Those who heard him (and I was one) can never forget the figure of one who stood in that pulpit like a very "Prophet in Israel"; nor the learning, the dignity and beauty of diction of these addresses. He declined, however, to enter the ministry and firmly determined to make the education of the masses his supreme field of service.

Dr. Leipziger was a candidate for the succession to Dr. Finley as President of the College. But he could hardly have been expected to receive that appointment; and though he was greatly disappointed at his failure, he came to rejoice with all friends of the College, at the selection which was finally made by the choice of Dr. Mezes.

Doubtless the one thing that he was proudest of and happiest with, was the presidency of the *Judaeans*, a Society founded by him and a few kindred spirits in 1897, for the pur-

pose of furthering the intellectual and spiritual interests of the Jews in New York. The membership of this honorable association is as limited as it is select; and Dr. Leipziger had every reason to pride himself on the fact that he was made its president and was retained in this position as long as he lived.

Another presidency which gave him much pleasure and pride was that of the Alumni Association of our College which he held for two successive terms (1910 and 1911).

The cultural work which he accomplished in his lifetime is the best measure and test of his worth and his character. While he appeared austere, he was kindly and sympathetic; he hated shams and never hesitated to attack them fearlessly. On the other hand, he was lovable and loyal to those who were true to him and to the things which he espoused. He was a devoted friend of the College and of the work for which it stood. His family life was ideally pure and happy; though not married, he made a home with his mother and sister, in which the tenderest solicitude of one for the other was the guiding spirit. He was aggressive in his insistence upon the rights of the poor and unfortunate; and he was impatient at those who could, but would not, do their share to contribute to the causes for the common good. He had the vision of the poet and the seer; and, above all things, he was a lover of his people.

When about to be taken to the operating room in his final sickness, and when already at the utmost depth of suffering, he recited this verse from the poet Henley (I quote it, as most significantly expressive of his bent of mind and character):

> "It matters not how straight the gate,
> How charged with punishment the scroll,
> I am the master of my fate,
> I am the captain of my soul."

In conclusion I quote now, as equally expressive of the deeper things which concerned him, the following concluding paragraph of a little speech which he made on the occasion

referred to in the beginning of this article, when his class had just deposited in the Webb Room his splendid portrait:

I cannot forbear, my dear friends, from expressing the natural joy that I feel in this occasion. To have those that know us best love us most, is the finest thing in life. Greater than any laurel won in any field of learning, greater than any degree conferred upon me by any university, is the fact that I am thus honored in the presence of my mother and sister. This forms the priceless treasure of my life.

If my image can be of influence on any one who enters this Hall, then I shall feel that I have justified to my Maker my right to have lived.

Henry M. Leipziger, as all those who really know him will agree, did certainly justify to his Maker his right to have lived.

Benno Lewinson, '73.

JAMES RICH STEERS, '53

(1833–1917)

Born in the city of New York and trained in its public schools, Mr. Steers in 1848 entered the Free Academy and in 1853 graduated with the first class. Though he had some knowledge of shipbuilding, which for generations had been the business of the Steers family, he was led by circumstances to the profession of the law. Several years after graduation he was persuaded by his father, at the time a magistrate, to give up engineering work in which he had made a good beginning in order to become clerk of his father's court. Thereafter he studied law at the Columbia Law School and in 1863 was admitted to the bar. From then until 1899 he practiced law.

Of a quiet, rather retiring disposition, Mr. Steers had many of the qualities that we like to associate with the college graduate. He had a wide range of tastes and information. Reading and travel, guided by informed curiosity, had diversified the possessions of his mind. He read much, particularly in science, which always had a hold upon his interest. Extensive and studious travel in Europe, Palestine, Egypt and the East intensified his interest in art. He was most impressed, perhaps, by the art of Egypt and Japan, mementoes of which he brought home with him. Travel strengthened also his interest in architecture, which always had a particular fascination for him.

The nautical tradition of the family was not entirely lost in Mr. Steers, for, though he did not, like his father, build a yacht *America*, he did occasionally design a small sloop. That he could plan a good shoal water craft I can testify, for one summer I made good use in fair weather and foul of one of his knockabouts.

The very real interest that Mr. Steers felt throughout his life in science was indicated by his reading, his gifts to the

scientific departments of the College, his membership in scientific societies and his interest in such institutions as Cooper Union. In 1907 he gave the sum of $10,000, known as the Steers Fund, the interest on which is used to buy books for the departments of Natural History, Physics and Chemistry. Later he gave $5,000 to buy books for the Department of Chemistry.

The traits that most endeared him to his friends were his quiet humor, his companionableness, his love of the open country. Years ago these qualities were tested on the glorious trips to the almost trackless North Woods and in later years on more modest tramps in the less populous regions near New York. The friendships made in college, fortified even in those days by long walks and by excursions to the verdant Riker's Island, were cemented by many a hard tramp and boat trip through the mountains and lakes of the Adirondacks and of Maine. The companions of these earlier years were Mr. Steers' life-long friends—John Hardy, Charles L. Holt, Gen. Gilbert McKibben (Kib) and Alfred G. Compton (Komp). Of these only General McKibben is here.

The joys of youth and vigorous manhood were not to Mr. Steers unremembered pleasures, but were permanent possessions of the mind which gave him even in his last days much comfort and reminiscent happiness. Some years ago his vivid recollections of the Maine woods led to the unwonted expression in verse of his feeling for primeval nature. He published in "Sail and Paddle" some sketches of woodland waters.

"THE RAPID"

"With buoyant prow, behind a sheltering rock,
The sentient birch awaits the rapids' shock,
The while we scan the river's angry face
To find, amid the tossing waves, a place
To climb the rushing torrent's roaring tide.
The choice is made, the pole is deftly plied,
And pressed against the shore. The graceful thing

Like bounding deer, with forward, upward spring.
Leaps the high wave and poises on the crest;
Down deep against the rocks, the pole is pressed,
And, trembling, holds the bark upon the wave.
The guide with straining muscles strives to save
The distance gained; and now, with eager power,
Bears on the bending pole, then thro' a shower
Of spray, the straining boat with graceful leap,
Surmounts the heaving water's downward sweep,
And now with pliant paddle swiftly plied,
Flies like a bird along the lessening tide."

These varied interests did not preclude a quietly determined, a rather fixed view of human relations. Mr. Steers was thorough and persistent, as he showed when he had a chimney torn down three times that it might be brought to conform with the plans that he had got from an old essay of Count Rumford's. Mr. Steers' ideas of personal duties and rights were rather strict, perhaps a bit formal, though not determined by religious feeling. His beliefs he summed up in the Golden Rule. So far as I know he never gave public expression to his views. A certain restraint and personal dignity characterized his way of life.

The friends of Mr. Steers will miss the friend of the College, the genial host, the quiet cultured traveller, and the lover of all things under the open skies.

ALFRED D. COMPTON, '97.

Louis Pope Gratacap

LOUIS POPE GRATACAP

The sudden death of Louis Pope Gratacap at his home on Staten Island on December 19, 1917, closed the earthly career of a man whose fascinating character was an inspiration to his friends and associates.

Born in Brooklyn, November, 1850, he graduated at old Grammar School No. 14 on East 27th Street, entered the class of 1869 of the Free Academy, and obtained his degree of Bachelor of Arts in the first year of the City College. Immediately after graduation, he entered the General Theological Seminary of the Protestant Episcopal Church, where he obtained a scholarship under the will of one of his ancestors. He remained only a year in theological studies. Abandoning the church for the pursuit of science, he entered the School of Mines at Columbia, from which he graduated in 1876.

Soon after, he became Assistant Curator in Mineralogy in the American Museum of Natural History, and, promoted to the position of Curator in the same department and in the cognate field of Conchology, he held his position there and did admirable work in rearranging the exhibits and supervising the Morgan Collection of Gems until his death. Possessed of an original and prolific mind, he contributed many articles on Geology and Mineralogy, wrote a popular Hand Book on Mineralogy and the Geology of New York City, and displayed such industry and learning that his works in scientific and other fields make a respectable library. His interest in the ritual of the Protestant Episcopal Church—in its charm and beauty—resulted in his first serious work *Apologia Pro Ritu* published in 1887.

Of an exceedingly broad and catholic spirit, he was led away from active interest in the faith of his parents, but notwithstanding the change or development of his convictions he was undoubtedly a man of highly religious feelings and was

imbued with the lofty and noble ideals that usually accompany and uplift the soul in the practice of a pure and undefiled religion. It may be said with truth that "he visited the fatherless and the widows in their affliction" and kept himself "unspotted from the world." His constant benefactions, his interest in the cares and burdens of workingmen and women, his catholic sympathy with all associated with him, however humble, are well known, especially to the attendants and workmen about the Museum for the past forty years. He had so wonderful a chord of sympathy with those who suffer that his cheerful temperament and encouraging words were always a benison and an inspiration.

As an author he showed a versatility that led him to write a few striking novels, the most admirable of which was *Benjamin the Jew* published in 1913. Among other works he wrote *Analytics of a Belief in a Future Life, The World as Intention, The Substance of Literature, The World's Prayer, The Certainty of a Future Life in Mars, A Woman of the Ice Age, The New Northland, The Evacuation of England, The Mayor of New York, Europe's Handicap-Tribe and Class* and *The End.*

As a speaker he was almost unrivalled in the command of a rich imagery, occasionally exaggerated to the point of grotesqueness, especially in some of his brilliant flights at alumni dinners, where he was sometimes induced reluctantly to display his marvelous talents. On such occasions his sense of humor was so pronounced and his apparently serious speeches were so wild and extravagant in language as to almost stagger the mind and produce by the element of surprise the enthusiastic shouts of his auditors.

As a lecturer he was instructive and fascinating and in great demand. In spite of his wonderful command of language and his grace and charm as a lecturer, he declined a great opportunity, which many of his friends felt would have vastly increased his popularity and replenished his purse.

Among his intimate friends who had the privilege of his

table talk, he poured out his rich stores of learning, his thoughtful and inspiring words, his bursts of humor, with a prodigality and abandon which filled them with wonder and delight.

Barred by unforeseen circumstances from the delights of an intimate family life, that is, of happy wife and bonny children, he was always cheerful in his home, where he lived with an unmarried brother in happiness and contentment. During his later life, chiefly on account of his health, which for years was precarious, he led a quiet life, declined the repeated invitations of friends and bore their reproaches on account of his seclusion with equanimity. He concealed from his brother the premonitions of impending death, of which he had knowledge, and thus showed an unselfish courage, characteristic of a reticent, noble soul, who refrained from giving pain to others by complaint or murmur induced by ill health or discontent.

His ardent love for the College, his enthusiastic gratitude to his instructors and his intense admiration of his classmate Edward M. Shepard may be mentioned as proof of his appreciation of early advantages.

Without intending to sketch a paragon, an old friend may be pardoned in referring so intimately to the traits and characteristics of a man of such unique personality, whose passing away was so sudden and yet so gentle.

"At the last, tenderly,
From the walls of the powerful, fortress'd house,
From the clasp of the knitted locks—from the keep of the well-closed doors,
Let me be wafted.
Let me glide noiselessly forth;
With the key of softness unlock the locks—with a whisper,
Set ope the doors, O soul!
Tenderly! be not impatient!
(Strong is your hold, O mortal flesh!
Strong is your hold, O Love!)"

GEORGE C. LAY, '69.

PROFESSOR DIELMAN

On the thirty-first day of January, 1917, Professor Frederick N. Dielman, who had been the head of the Art Department since 1903, retired from active service with the title of Professor Emeritus. Although last Christmas marked his seventieth birthday, he leaves in the full flush of physical health with every promise of emulating Titian's ninety years and nine. His face is to the future and he means to pick up again his brush and palette. What he may yet accomplish in the field of art no one can foretell. A brief sketch of what he has done follows.

Professor Dielman was born in Hanover, Germany. Brought to this country as a child, he passed his boyhood in western Maryland where he received the usual public school training of that day. Although there was a distinctly musical environment and tradition in his home, his predilection was for drawing and for the career of the painter which he practiced as far back as his memory goes. At Calvert College, Md., where he took his B.A. at the age of seventeen, he showed that a talent for drawing is not fatal to scholarship, laying so strong a foundation in his studies that he was able two score years later to help his sons with their Latin and Greek translations.

His first effort at anything serious in the field of art was a drawing of a Confederate cavalry raid in a little town, a direct sketch of Harry Gilmore's band sweeping down a hill upon the aroused population. This drawing, made a year before his graduation from Calvert, was published by *Leslie's Weekly.*

After graduation there was an interval of a year or so during which he made drawings of Virginia battlefields which were published. He then entered the United States Engineering Office as draughtsman and topographer. This highly tech-

nical work he was able to do on the basis of his college training in scientific drawing. Although he intended to remain only a few months, he continued at this work for six years, serving both at Fort Monroe and Baltimore.

But his art ambitions were by no means forgotten. Washington and the pictures then to be seen in the Congressional Library were Rome to him, a constant reminder of the career he had set out to make for himself. While on the seashore and in the mountains of West Virginia where much of the work in experimental fortifications lay, he sketched from nature. At the end of six years, with the savings which he had accumulated for the purpose, he laid down his job and went abroad to study. He proceeded to Munich, where he stayed four years, including his travels which he took in Italy.

In 1876, at the time of the Centennial Exhibition, he returned. It was a critical and turning period in American art. He was one of a large number of young men just back from the art centers of Europe, who found themselves in revolt against current traditions. The impetus given to modern tendencies by the Centennial paintings favored them, and the year after his return, he helped to organize these "moderns" of that day into the Society of American Artists.

In 1883 he was elected a full member of the National Academy. During the intervening years, though he painted genre pictures in oil, he was drawn into the field of illustration and wood engraving. Those were the days of Abbey, Pyle, Cole, Wolf. At this time also, his love of the various art media led to work in water color and in etching, as a result of which he became one of the founders of the New York Etching Club and a member of the American Water Color Society.

As secretary and treasurer of the Society of American Artists his policy was in part responsible for the amalgamation of that society with the National Academy of Design, which in its enlarged character elected him president in 1899 and retained him in that position until 1909. In 1910 he became

president of the Fine Arts Federation of New York, an organization devoted to the interests of public art, a position which was previously held by our own eminent alumnus, Russell Sturgis. This position he held from 1910 to 1915. For three years he was also a member of the Municipal Art Commission, an elective office, controlled by the vote of the Fine Arts Federation. Nor does this complete the list of his art affiliations, for he is a member of the National Institute of Arts and Letters, the director of the Cooper Union Art School, a lecturer at the National Academy of Design's school of art, and one should not forget in this summary his former position as a Trustee of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Though his work as an illustrator, educator and art organizer occupied much of his time, he was tempted into the field of painting, more particularly mural painting, by a number of flattering commissions. When the decoration of the Congressional Library was undertaken, Professor Dielman was one of those given a space to fill. He and Elihu Vedder executed their panels in mosaic. His subject was "Law and History." In mosaic, too, are his decorations, "Thrift" in the Albany Savings Bank and "The Functions of Government," a very large scaled decoration in the Iowa State House. A group of mural paintings by him is to be seen in the office of the *Evening Star* in Washington.

Since 1903, the time of his coming to the City College as Professor of Art, the art educator has absorbed the art worker. Now that a larger leisure is once again his, it may be hoped that in the near future, in the exhibition gallery, which should be a feature of our new library building, an exhibition of his paintings may bring both the man and his work to our College halls.

LOUIS WEINBERG, '05.

DE LIBRIS

New York as an Eighteenth Century Municipality, by Arthur E. Peterson and George W. Edwards.

Dr. George W. Edwards, instructor in the Department of Political Science of the College, is the co-author of this very illuminating account of the early history of New York City. The period prior to 1731 is treated by Dr. Peterson, while Dr. Edwards covers the period subsequent to that date. Dr. Edwards begins his account with a discussion of the organization of the city government under the Montgomerie charter. Then follow chapters dealing with political conditions, trade and industry, charities and corrections, police, fire protection, public lands and streets, ferries, finance. The material for the book is drawn almost exclusively from the old city records.

Perhaps the most striking impression which is made on the mind of the reader, is that the problems which confronted the city a century and a half ago were not very different from those which the city faces today. There is a strange familiarity in the charge brought by a defeated candidate in an election in 1768 that "some undue Methods and unfair practices were used in the Course of the said Election by his opponent." Equally familiar is the complaint that the provincial legislature discriminated against the city in matters of taxation, the rural legislators "loaded the city with a third part of the public burdens, for the ease of their own counties." Colonial justice appears not to have been always evenhanded as between the rich and the poor, if we are to believe the charge made by one of the popular leaders of the time. "If," he says, "any great Man should draw his Indignation, and whip you through the Lungs; or with a stone or Brickbat knock your Brains out, and he should be presented by the Grand Jury, Pray what Notice would be taken of it? If we may guess at what will be, from what has been; I believe very little."

There is abundant colonial precedent for the present day municipal regulation of business activities. Thus we find the city fathers in the middle of the eighteenth century fixing the price and quality of bread. It makes the present day New Yorker long for the good old times when "the best white bread weighing ten and one-half ounces" sold for one penny. Still our colonial ancestors complained of the high cost of living, for we find them lamenting the fact that an "income" which would have enabled a family to live with some distinction thirty or forty years since, "is now not sufficient for the subsistence of a Family of midling Rank." The early inhabitants also had their troubles with a colonial beef trust. The price of beef which was eight pence a pound was due, according to the statement of one of the disgruntled residents, to the efforts of "one of the most impudent combinations that was ever suffered among a free and thinking people." Another complaint, of which we hear echoes at the present time, was that non-resident workmen were taking money from the city without "so much as buying a pair of Shoes in the City of New York." And finally the early city officials faced the same problem which confronts their successors today of finding funds to defray the constantly increasing city budget. In 1756 the balance in the municipal treasury was £1, and resort was made to a public lottery to relieve the situation. But with all its troubles the city grew and prospered. In the thirty years before the revolution exports increased sixfold and imports sevenfold.

Numerous photographic reproductions of significant extracts from the early city records give an added interest to the book.

NELSON P. MEAD.

A Trip to Latin America, by Professors Fuentes and François (Henry Holt and Co.) is intended for beginners in Spanish. It is written in very simple language, and has copious composition and conversation exercises, a complete

Spanish-English vocabulary and an appendix giving the conjugation of verbs. After six short historical and descriptive reading lessons, we are taken in a series of imaginary letters and conversations on a trip to Cuba, then down the eastern coast of South America, across the Andes from Argentina to Chile, up the western coast and thus to Mexico City, from which the last letter is supposed to be written. The subjects treated cover the geographical features, climate, industries, products, characteristics of social life, and biographies of celebrated patriots. As the authors say in their preface: "While learning the Spanish language, the beginner thus enriches his mind with much important and useful information on the geography, history, government, industry, commerce, and climate of the Latin-American countries, and the habits and customs of their peoples." By reading and conversing about the passages given in this book, the student would assuredly acquire a useful vocabulary and considerable facility in the use of the spoken language. The text is accompanied with an outline map and a number of interesting illustrations.

In the *Theatre Magazine* for February, Mr. Robert H. Hatch, of the Public Speaking Department, publishes an article entitled "Is the Theatre a Necessity or a Luxury?" In answering the question, Mr. Hatch, while dismissing many types of plays as luxuries, and noxious luxuries at that, finds that well-made plays and acting based on noble tradition make the play-house a spiritual necessity. The article exhibits its author's delicate taste in theatrical performances and his thoroughgoing appreciation of excellence, both in plays and in acting.

Professor Henry G. Kost, '80, has published a new national anthem, "I love Thee, Columbia," of which we quote the first stanza:

I love thee, Columbia, fair land of the west,
By nature with lavish hand bounteously blest:
Thy streams sparkling silver, thy plains waving gold,
Thy lakes Heaven's mirrors, thy peaks towering bold;
Where the palm's sunny leaves greet the evergreen pine,
And the fruits of the west and the east intertwine.

O refuge from oppression,
Thou home of liberty;
Whose starry banner shelters
Freemen, forever free!

INTRA MUROS

With this issue of THE QUARTERLY, Professor Ball, who for several years conducted this department, retires on account of other duties. Professor Coleman has kindly consented to take up the task. The editor expresses his gratitude to Professor Ball for his long and efficient service.

The total number of students registered in the college classes for the spring term is 2,014, of whom 1,965 are regular and 49 special students. The incoming freshman class numbers 370, of whom 91 come from Townsend Harris Hall, 270 from other high schools, and 9 are classed as miscellaneous. The total registration is, by reason of the war, less than it has been lately; it had risen to 2,038 this time last year, and 2,097 in September.

The service flag referred to in the last issue as containing one hundred and fifty-one stars was then an invisible symbol. Since then, the expense being jointly borne by the Faculty and the Student Council, a real flag of imposing size (twelve by twenty feet) has been displayed on the wall of the tower above the main entrance. It was raised with ceremony before a large assemblage on December 5. Sidney M. Wittner, president of the Student Council, dwelt on the fact that the flag was conclusive evidence of the patriotism of the student body, despite the false rumors which have been maliciously circulated and the rash and unwise conduct of a few students. Professor Otis was the principal speaker. "The purpose of education," he said, "is not merely right thinking, but right thinking crystallized into action. These hundred and fifty star-crystals represent our eagerness not only to conceive but also to fight for an ideal. The College of the City of New York did not have an opportunity to aid in the war that established American independence; but it proved its birth-right when, in 1861, it sent its men to fight and die for the

preservation of the Union. Today, in the face of an even greater menace to all that we hold dear, the College has again justified its existence." All were thrilled when he pleaded earnestly that "as our soldiers sail eastward to fight, perhaps to die, for democracy, for freedom, for the preservation of spiritual values in civilization," we who, for a while, remain at home, should do our full part in support of the cause. The effect may best be seen by the fact that within three days ten more stars had to be added to the flag.

On November 22 Mr. Norman Angell addressed an assembly in the Great Hall on the subject of "Success in our War Aims." In the course of a lucid analysis of international relations, he took occasion to make what he called "a confession of political faith with reference to the war."

I was an early advocate, he said, of American participation in the war, or the abandonment of American neutrality. It seemed very clear to me that the outcome of the war would be more truly democratic if America were a participant than if she were not. Neutrality in a war of this character is an impossible position for a great people who want to take their part in organizing the world and making it safe. I am not in favor of a patched-up peace; I have never spoken a word in favor of an early peace, because I believe that the results which the war achieves are more important than the date at which it finishes. I believe that it is absolutely necessary to defeat and thoroughly discredit German militarism, and that until that institution is destroyed the world will never be safe.

Yet sincerely as I believe all that, I am also convinced that victory itself will be rendered futile unless we know how to use victory when peace comes. We are in real danger of wasting the great gift which the soldiers will purchase with their lives, of rendering it futile by the bad politics of us civilians who are left behind . . . . Even if not a single German soldier remained alive, it would still be a vast and thorny problem to secure safety and equal rights for each nation, to maintain economic freedom and rights of way, to reconcile national right with international obligation. Victory may be necessary to these things, but certainly victory is not enough. If we are to find a solution at all, many old conceptions must be vastly changed; and that change can only come as the result of widespread and thorough discussion.

The Evening Session has again secured the help of some well-known and public-spirited citizens in organizing a course on "Advanced Legal Topics." The chairman of the committee in charge is Judge Julius M. Mayer, '84. Among its members are Judge Hughes, president of the State Bar Association; Judge Ingraham, president of the City Bar Association; Judge Morgan J. O'Brien, president of the New York County Bar; former Attorney-General Wickersham;

the Hon. James Byrne, formerly a trustee of the College; Judge Hough, of the Circuit Court; and Judge Francis M. Scott, '67. The secretary of the committee is Bernard Naumburg, '94, who is acting as a supervisor of special lectures for the Evening Session.

In honor of Dr. Henry M. Leipziger, '73, head of the public lecture system of the city, who died on December 1, a special memorial meeting was held on December 8 in the Doremus Lecture Theatre, which was crowded. Dr. Edward H. Hall presided, and many expressions of esteem and regret were uttered in speeches and letters. A committee was appointed to draft resolutions and to consider methods of perpetuating the lecture system in accordance with Dr. Leipziger's ideals. Its members are Dr. Willis Fletcher Johnson, of the New York *Tribune*, Robert G. Weyh, Jr., Dr. H. F. Sherwood, Augustus Ludwig, principal of P. S. 112, Miss J. M. Davis, and Professor Charles F. Horne, '89.

The class pictures which used to hang in the corridors of the old Twenty-third Street building have been repaired and placed in the Webster Room. When the College moved to the new buildings the custom that the graduating class should present its photograph was discontinued; but it is hoped that it will be revived. The classes of 1900 and 1907 have promised to give their pictures. Those which are already there are 1880, 1889, 1891, 1892, 1893, 1894, 1896, 1897, 1898, 1899, 1901, 1902, 1904, and 1906.

There has been considerable discussion among the students as to the advisability of establishing the "honor system," at least on the final examinations or in the elective courses. Their representative has twice appeared before the faculty committee on Student Activities, of which Professor Saurel is now chairman, proposing to formulate by a referendum the desire of the student body to try the experiment. So far the committee has felt that it would be inadvisable to in-

stitute the system until a more thorough and universal understanding of the obligations it would involve prevails among the entire body of undergraduates.

The first annual meeting of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish was held in the Great Hall on December 29. In spite of the weather, about two hundred teachers were present. In addition to the rendering of an interesting musical programme by Spanish artists, papers were read by Professor Federico de Onis, Columbia; Miss Susan D. Huntington, director of the International Institute; Señor J. Moreno-Lacalle, United States Naval Academy; Señor Manuel González Z, former consul-general of Costa Rica in New York, and others. At the afternoon business meeting, following a luncheon in the tower rooms, the constitution was adopted and the following officers elected for two years: president, Lawrence A. Wilkins, in charge of modern languages in the New York high schools; first vice-president, Professor Rudolph Schevill, University of California; second vice-president, Professor Ventura Fuentes, of our college; third vice-president, Professor Charles P. Wagner, University of Michigan; treasurer, Dr. Alfred Coester, Commercial High School, Brooklyn; additional members of the executive council, Professor C. G. Allen, Leland Stanford, Jr., University; Captain Charles P. Harrington, Culver Military Academy; Miss Josephine W. Holt, John Marshall High School, Richmond, Va.; Professor J. Warshaw, University of Missouri.

Professor Walter E. Clark, whose sixteen years' connection with the College were described in the last issue, left New York on December 16 to assume his new duties as president of the University of Nevada. On the previous Wednesday evening he was the guest of honor at the annual student soirée, held at the City College Club. Among those who voiced their esteem for Professor Clark and their regret at losing him were Professors Turner, Robinson, and Otis, Julius Hyman, '94, Schattman and Corrigan, '17, and Samuel

Markowitz, president of the Evening Session Student Council. Joel Lifflander, '18, on behalf of a committee of those who had studied under the departing professor, presented him with a silver loving cup.

The faculty meeting of January 10 was marked by the formal leave-taking of another retiring member, Professor Dielman, head of the Art Department. His distinguished career and his genial personality were in everybody's mind as a few simple words assured him of the Faculty's regard for him, and a rising vote made their expression of respect unanimous.

The senior class play, which was to have been presented on February 1 and 2, was finally abandoned on account of the breaches made by the war in the ranks of those who should have taken part in it.

The exhibit of city government in all its branches which has for three months been visited by large numbers of people in the Lincoln Corridor of the Main (or, as it is now officially named, the Shepard) Building is now being packed up in preparation for its removal to a permanent home in the Twenty-third Street building. In co-operation with the various city departments, the College will have the honor of establishing the first permanent municipal museum in the United States. How far its fame has spread may be seen by the fact that the Institute of Civics in Paris is now in correspondence with our authorities, with a view to establishing a similar museum there. Lately, through Professor Breithut's endeavors and with the aid of the American Museum of Natural History and of Professor Margaret Wilson of Hunter College, a food exhibit has been installed in the same central spot. Its purpose is to give the citizens accurate scientific information on foods and their values. New material will be added from time to time, to replace that which has been sufficiently studied.

Since Professor Newton's appointment as acting librarian, by his diligent labors and the loyal co-operation of the whole library force, the usefulness of the College Library has been enormously increased. In the last six months 50,000 volumes have been labelled with classification numbers, and these numbers placed on the catalogue-cards, making the catalogue usable at last. An accumulation of 1,500 volumes in the cataloguing room has been classified, catalogued, and put into circulation. Large numbers of new books have been purchased, and immediately put into circulation. The apportionment of the library funds to the College departments has been put into operation; the money thus apportioned includes both the normal income and an accumulation of several thousand dollars, not spent during the last few years because of lack of working force to handle the additional work. The library of the Department of Political Science, some 1,200 volumes, has been transferred to the main library, catalogued, labelled, and put into circulation. The practical usefulness of the library has been further increased by the opening of the loan department daily from 9 to 5, instead of only a part of the day; by opening it also two evenings in the week, and extending the privilege of borrowing books for the first time to Evening Session students, for whose benefit the reading-room and reference department are opened nightly from 7 to 10; by the establishment of a reference department, under a fellow-at-large with student assistants; and by improvements in the charging system which save time and effort for borrowers and attendants.

There have been a number of changes and promotions among the instructing staff. Professor Hunt has taken Professor Dielman's place at the head of the Art Department, and Professor Woolston has been made chairman of the Political Science Department in the room of Professor Clark. Professor Ventura Fuentes (A.B., 1889; M.D., Columbia, 1902) has been made associate professor of the Spanish

Language and Literature, and Professor Thomas R. Moore (A.B., Wesleyan, 1895; M.A., N. Y. U., 1905; Ph.D., 1906) associate professor of history. The following instructors have been made assistant professors: Latin, Emory B. Lease (A.B., Ohio Wesleyan, 1885; A.M., 1888; Ph.D., Johns Hopkins, 1892); English, Donald G. Whiteside (B.S., 1897; M.A., N.Y.U., 1900), and Bird W. Stair (B.S., Purdue, 1899; M.S., 1902); Art, J. Redding Kelly; Public Speaking, Joseph A. Mosher (Ph.B., Syracuse, 1905; Ph.M., 1906; A.M., Columbia, 1907; Ph.D., 1911); Political Science, George M. Brett (A.B., Bowdoin, 1897); Physics, Charles A. Corcoran (B.S., 1904; A.M., Columbia, 1906); Hygiene, W. W. Browne (A.B., Brown, 1908; A.M., 1909; Ph.D., 1912). In the College, Mr. Robert E. Dressler has been advanced from assistant tutor to tutor in the Physics Department. In Townsend Harris Hall, the following tutors have been advanced to instructorships: in Physics, Waldo B. Truesdell (A.B., Harvard, 1897; A.M., Columbia, 1912); in English, Joseph F. Wickham (A. B., Holy Cross, 1904; A.M., Columbia, 1908); Joseph E. Fitzpatrick (A.B., Fordham, 1906); Michael J. Keleher (A.B., Georgetown, 1904; A.M., St. Francis Xavier, 1906); Robert H. Alles (B.S., 1906; A.M., Columbia, 1908). Mr. W. H. Fernschild (A.B., 1911; A.M., Columbia, 1915) has been advanced from tutor to assistant instructor in history; and Messrs. Jos. E. Cotellessa and Roy R. Denslow have resigned.

At the faculty meeting on December 13, the following resolutions were presented by the committee appointed for the purpose, and adopted by a rising vote:

The Faculty of the College of the City of New York wish to record their grief at the loss of their colleague, Charles Howard Parmly, Professor of Engineering. It is difficult to speak of Professor Parmly with restraint, for he had endeared himself to all of us, and all admired his pre-eminent ability. A son of the College in the class of 1888, he began his work here in 1889, and for twenty-eight years, as a member of the Departments of Mathematics and Physics, did effective and distinguished service in the class room, in administration and in council. His accurate scholarship and his untiring industry made him a valuable member of his department; his clear mind and his sound judgment, to which was added a marvelous gift of lucid exposition, excited the admiration of his colleagues in the

Faculty, while his gentleness and his courtesy gained their affectionate regard. Professor Parmly's influence has been felt in every important question which has been discussed by the Faculty during recent years. Two measures, however, remain, in an especial sense, as monuments to his memory—one the establishment of the new Department of Engineering, for which he was so largely responsible; and second his masterly analysis of the cost of maintaining the College. In this he explored untrodden ground, and his work is today serving as a model for similar surveys of other institutions. The loss which the College sustains in the death of Professor Parmly is particularly great because he died just at the time when he was engaged in a very important enterprise for the College. The loss which his friends, the Faculty, have suffered would have been irreparable at any time.

EXTRA MUROS

IN MEMORIAM

The meeting of the Associate Alumni *In Memoriam* of those who had died during the year 1916–1917 was held in the Webb Room at the College in the evening of Sunday, December 9. The invocation and benediction were pronounced by Rabbi Nathan Blechman, '02; Professor Compton, '97, spoke of Mr. Steers, '53, Benno Lewinson, '73, of his classmate, Dr. Leipziger, Thomas W. Churchill, '82, of his classmate, Professor Ilgen, and Professor Earle F. Palmer, '88, of his classmate, Professor Parmly. Dr. William L. Felter, '83, delivered the general address. On the conclusion of the memorial speeches, President Fagnani presented the list, containing thirty-nine names among which were one from the first and one from the last class graduated, and Professor Mott received it on behalf of the Faculty. Music was provided by Rudolph Pelunis, '18, and Milton J. Rettenberg, '18. Owing to the inclement weather, the attendance was small, but the service was worthy of its occasion.

PHI BETA KAPPA

The fall meeting of the Gamma Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa was held at the Hotel Astor on Monday, November 26, President Werner in the chair. After the transaction of the ordinary business, the announcement of deaths, and the reading of resolutions, Justice Julius M. Mayer, '84, spoke on "The Federal Courts," giving a general idea of their jurisdiction and of the multiplicity of the kinds of business coming before them. In the remarks made upon the address, as well as by vote, the chapter expressed its high appreciation of Judge Mayer's presentation of the subject.

DE MORTUIS

1855, Simeon Baldwin, Jr., B.S.	February 11, 1918.
1883, Luther Origene Cabaret, A.B.	January 19, 1918.
1887, Emanuel Blumensteil, A.B.	February 9, 1918.
1887, George William Stake, A.B., A.M. LL.B.	December, 1917.
1888, Albert Kohn, A.B., M.D.	January 16, 1918.

LOUIS POPE GRATACAP

To the Editor of The City College Quarterly,

Sir:—If I shall not overlap and in part duplicate the memorials sent you by his classmates, may I be indulged in an endeavor to convey my impression of one facet of the many-sided ability of the late Louis Pope Gratacap?

Mr. Gratacap's scientific work at the American Museum of Natural History commanded the admiration of his colleagues, as his personality did their affection. His published writings bear copious but in truth only incomplete testimony to his extraordinary versatility, his clearness and precision of scientific statement, the wide range of his learning, his daring and extra-mundane imagination, his whimsical fancy, and his dominion over the English language. He could speculate in abstract philosophy, write the geologic history of Manhattan Island, sail between the planets with Poe and Jules Verne and H. G. Wells, and describe the shimmery, silvery descent upon a French battle-field of the hosts of the spirits of the slain. But he was a shy man, reluctant to stand up and speak. I have heard old John B. Gough, the lion of the platform forty and fifty years ago, say that *he* always began with trembling knees, and Gratacap confessed to me of horrible quakings and a cold sweat from head to foot. So his spoken word was his rarest. But it is to this, the "ugly duckling" of his varied avocations, that I beg to bear tribute.

Gratacap was a member of our most brilliant class,—'69. Yet among such paladins as the superb Shepard, the fiery Julien, the poet Baker, the silver-tongued Rush, the irresistible Fowler,—but I must forego the impertinence of epithets and let the names speak for themselves,—Theodore F. Miller, William G. McGuckin, John Claflin, Howard Payson Wilds, Henry Mottet, Thomas H. Burchard, and others,—all idols of my boyhood—he was an admitted peer, a "parfait and gentil knight," in that court of the talents. He won the right to appear at Junior Exhibition, the public anniversaries of Phrenocosmia and as a "Dissertationist" at Commencement. He was one of the stars of that constellation.

As a little boy, I remember at least *seeing* him on these occasions, but my impression of his eloquence is derived from only two appearances, one at an Alumni Dinner prior to 1903, and the other at the "Compton Jubilee" in 1903. I often tried to coax him out later, but could never overcome his shyness.

But what treats those two appearances were! Veritably, he "came"—and "conquered." (I think he was too frightened to "see.") He spoke at a speed that would have driven a court stenographer crazy. His deeply-lined, great-browed face was very pale and his hands were clasped as if in stage fright, but he simply "turned on" the enchantments. I have never heard such a command of vocabulary. On each occasion his purpose was only to amuse, but we sat around him dazzled, delighted, gaping like the good farmer folk of "the Great Middle West" rubbernecking at the "fireworks" at the Chicago Exposition of '93. He summoned swift legions of Miltonic words. New polysyllables of modern science shot up in the air. Sentences that out-Evarted Evarts spouted in fiery, sparkling, irridescent fountains, which we watched like rockets until (almost to the assembly's long-drawn "Ah–h–h!") they burst in starry showers—once in a while in some tingling, tantalizing surprise of anti-climax that made you realize that this white-faced, tense-drawn orator was really only trifling with *you*—playing magician's tricks, while in the wide sleeve of his constellated conjurer's gown he laughed at you. And so he played with us and on us for, say, ten crowded, glorious minutes. His diction danced delicately over the banks and rows of the black and white keys of his 20,000-piped organ with such *staccato*, frosted-silver nicety that you heard every syllable of every word of those far-fetched caravans of speech, those long, gorgeously-hued, antediluvian caterpillars,—polypeds

> "Innumerable of stains and splendid dyes
> As are the tiger-moth's deep-damask'd wings."

It was all as bewildering and on the border line of comprehensibility and the Fourth Dimension as the latest, wildest orchestral fantasies of Richard Strauss, or, better, of Siegfried Ochs, the Berlin conductor and composer, in burlesquing his "*So sprach Zarathustra*," but thoroughly delightful, a veritable fairy riot of intellectuality and learned wit and whimsiest fancy, even if, at the end, you had a curious, happy, "puzzled urchin" sensation of having been fooled to the top of your bent. It was Professor Doremus's "hifalutin'"—as I once called it,—sublimated and raised to the *n*th power.

As I write, I can see again the grin and wink of jolly, delighted anticipation, and hear the long-distance-telephoned chuckle of "*Now* we're going to get it!" which dear Theodore Miller shot across to me as he settled down in his chair to enjoy himself all over as Gratacap got up to speak at the Compton Jubilee. That was indeed a "halcyon and vociferous" night, and the Arion's hall was too big,—though hardly big enough for the crowd,—and probably but few of us could hear him perfectly, but certainly that night he was the master pyrotechnist, the "ground and lofty" Protean glass-blower. I think that then, for once, he boiled over and let himself go and

> " 'Bade farewell to every fear' and boldly waded in."

The "ugly duckling,"—the neglected avocation,—took on plumage as a Lohengrin swan, found that too white and colorless, and so turned peacock, golden pheasant, bird of paradise, and fiery Phoenix, and so went soaring up in flame.

I hope this will not seem too light and jocular a way to speak of the dead. I

write with a sad heart and with sincere admiration and with the tenderest regret and affection. But it seems to me that I cannot be conventionally decorous and yet "get across" to you younger Alumni, to whom he is but a name, any convincing impression of his spell,—of the flashing charm and magic of this wizard of words, this "one of the lords of language." To adopt Mark Twain, his vocabulary certainly amounted to "part of a" million words. He chose them for their far-awayness as well as for their beauty, like jewels "of Ormuz and of Ind," and juggled them by the hundred in shifting, many-colored lights, while, always, in the very crater and spouting centre of the up-showering display of learned and elegant foolery, he kept that Poe-like, tragically white, unsmiling face.

Like the singer's, the speaker's fame is but for a generation, for it can rest only upon the hearsay of oral tradition and can dwell at the last only in old men's memories; and in trying to convey to you some conviction of these old triumphs I feel like some garrulous old *habitué* of the Academy of Music, between the acts in the *foyer* of the Metropolitan, or, a week or two ago, of the Lexington, doing his best to get the youngsters to believe him about Patti and Nilsson and Campanini. But those youngsters *do* have their Caruso and their Galli-Curci. We have no more Gratacaps.

LEWIS SAYRE BURCHARD, '77.

February 27, 1918.

NOTICE

Kindly send to the college names of alumni or former students who are in active service, and give whatever details you can.

Address
HOWARD C. GREEN

IMPORTANT

Alumni Reunion
Smoker and Patriotic Rally

(Informal)

at

The Hotel Ansonia

Broadway and 73rd Street

Saturday, April 6, 1918, at 8.15 p. m.

Ticket $1.50

▽

Address: CHARLES MURRAY,
75 Broad Street,
New York, N. Y.

EDMUND BURKE, '90,
Chairman Committee,
Convent Ave. and 139th St.,
New York, N. Y.